

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 04113 100611Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 ICA-11 /050 W
-----017680 110748Z /11
R 091907Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7434
INFO PANCANAL
USSOUTHCOM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PN
SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER STRIKE IN PANAMA CITY

REF: PANAMA 04086

1. ON JUNE 8, LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER TYPOGRAPHERS' STRIKE BEGAN (REFTEL), LABOR MINISTRY ISSUED A DECISION INVOKING BINDING ARBITRATION OF DISPUTE UNDER LAW 95 AND ENDING THE STRIKE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT UNION WILL COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER AND THAT LOCAL PRINTING PLANTS, INCLUDING NEWSPAPERS "ESTRELLA" AND "STAR AND HERALD" WILL BE BACK IN OPERATION SHORTLY.

2. STATED REASONS FOR DECISION WERE DIRECT ADVERSE IMPACT ON CONSIDERABLE SEGMENT OF POPULATION DUE TO STOPPAGE IN PLANTS PRODUCING SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS FOR GOVERNMENT TO DISTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS, AND INDIRECT ADVERSE IMPACT ON NATIONAL ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.

3. PRIOR TO LABOR MINISTRY ORDER, UNION HAD
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DECLARED STRIKE 96 PERCENT EFFECTIVE IN CLOSING PRINTING SHOPS IN TOWN.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS THE MOST HIGHLY-VISIBLE STRIKE AGAINST WHICH THE YEAR-AND-A-HALF OLD LAW 95 HAS YET BEEN INVOKED. ITS PROMPT USE BY LABOR MINISTRY IN THIS CASE MAY BE TAKEN

BY LOCAL MANAGEMENT AS A FURTHER INDICATION OF
A GOVERNMENT 'TILT' IN ITS DIRECTION IN IMPLEMENTATION
OF LABOR LAWS. IT WILL CERTAINLY BE TAKEN BY
UNIONS AS ANOTHER DISHEARTENING REMINDER THAT THEIR
HONEYMOON WITH TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT IS LONG GONE,
AND THAT GOVERNMENT MAY BE CONSIDERING EXTENDING
LAW 95, OR PARTS OF IT, BEYOND ITS CURRENT EXPIRATION
DATE AT END OF THIS YEAR. JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWSPAPERS, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c9d4428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEWSPAPER STRIKE IN PANAMA CITY
TAGS: ELAB, SOPN, PN
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